GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:362
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
ROAD ACCIDENTS
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the social cost of road accidents is over 3 per cent of the GDP;

(b) if so, whether any new scheme has been launched to minimise the accidents on the National Highways;

(c) whether non-availability of fund is a reason for not providing amenities to bring down accident rates; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD KHANDURI)

(a) : In the Report of the Working Group on Road Accident, Injury Prevention and Control constitutedby the Planning Commission in 2001, the social cost of road traffic accident in India has been indicated at 3% of GDP.

(b) : Various Road Safety Programmes under implementation during 9th Plan are being continueddduring the 10th Plan with appropriate modifications wherever required. These are as under:-

(1) Provision of refresher training to drivers of heavy motor vehicles .

(2) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness through audio-visual-print media.

(3) Grants-in-aid to voluntary organizations for administering road safety programmes.

(4) Encouraging use of simulators in driver`s training.

(5) Institution of National Award for voluntary organizations/individuals for outstanding work in the field of road safety.

(6) Organising All India Essay Competition on road safety for school children with a view to create awareness.

(7) Tightening of fitness norms for transport vehicles.

(8) Widening /improvement of roads. etc.

(c) : No, Sir.

(d) : Does not arise.